

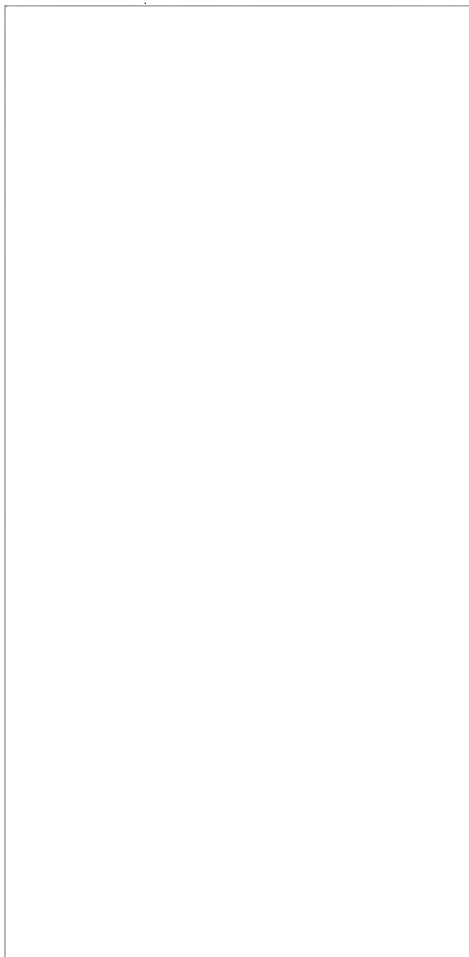
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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

**ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

2 SEPTEMBER 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. South Vietnam



a. General Khanh is still wavering about the date of his return to the Byzantine political wars of Saigon.

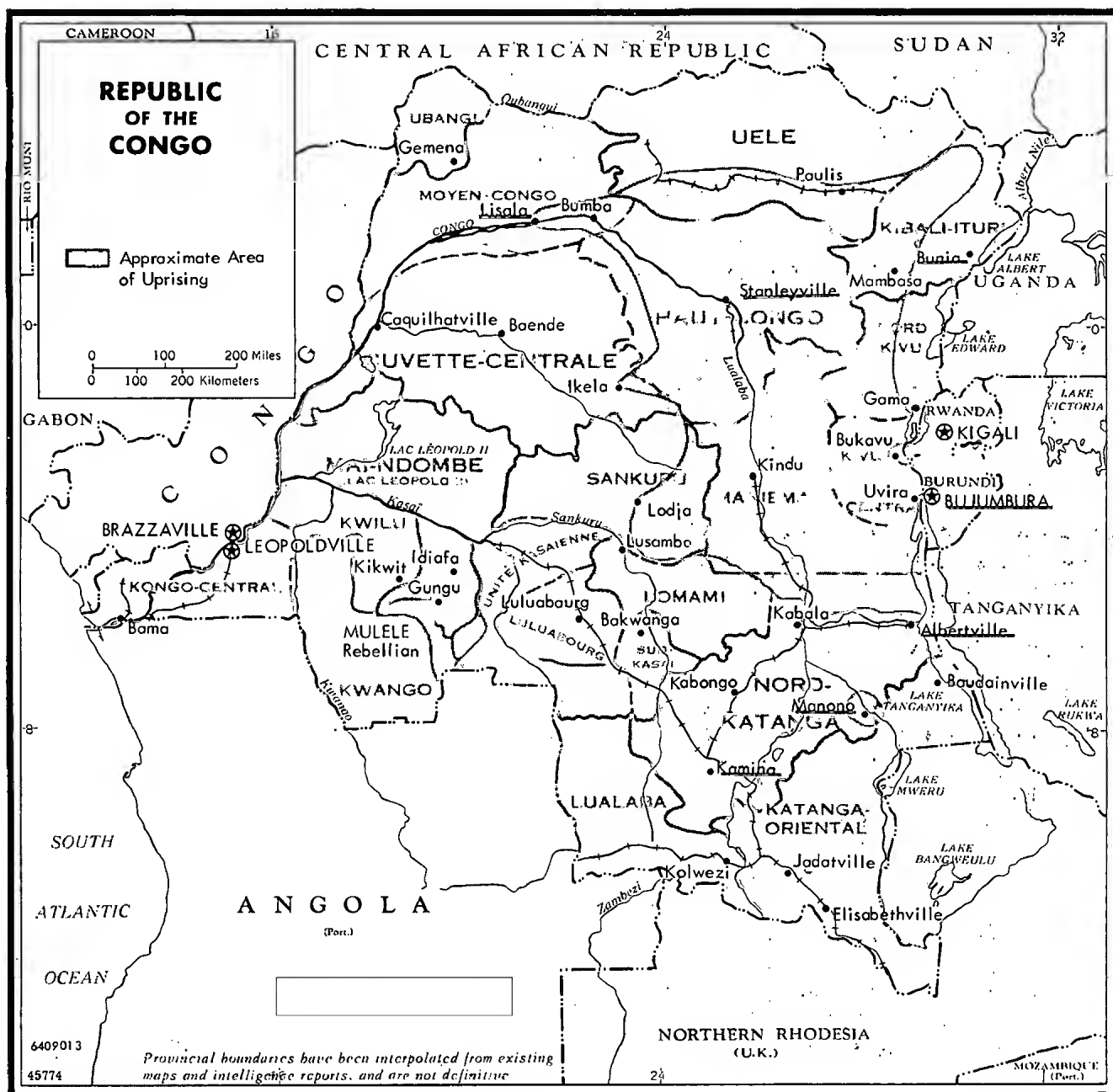
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b. He has said his return depends on "many factors" and could be days or weeks off. His real concern, however, is that he is not yet strong enough to move against his opponents in the Dai Viet Party.

c. The capital is alive with coup talk again. The regime may have neutralized one group under perennial plotter Col. Thao, but the current power vacuum in Saigon will encourage others to try their hand.

d. Buddhist and student leaders have promised a two-month moratorium on demonstrations to let the authorities effect promised reforms. We doubt they can make this stick.

e. So far the Viet Cong has chosen not to take advantage of all this confusion. Now, however, there are signs that they may be stepping up activities in the countryside with three company-size attacks in the last few days.



2. Congo

a. There has been little change in the military situation. In the south Tshombé's forces are setting out to retake the tin-mining center of Manono. Its capture would all but clear Katanga of rebels.

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b. In the north, however, the outlook continues grim. The situation around Bunia, in the extreme northeast, is deteriorating, and a new attack on Bukavu looms.

c. The rebels in Stanleyville now seem willing to let civil aircraft land there. The UN has suggested flying doctors and medicine in and US and other foreign personnel out.

d. Tshombé's chances for a sympathetic hearing at the September meeting of the OAU are receding as publicity about his white mercenaries spreads.

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Tshombé is making it almost impossible for any African to help.

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e. Tshombé is aware of this. He has asked that the meeting be postponed from 5 to 17 September

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3. Cyprus

a. The island is quiet for the moment.

b. The Greek Cypriot economic blockade, however, has left the Turkish community with acute shortages of food, fuel, clothing, and medical supplies. The UN has warned that this could cause an "explosion."

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c. It could come at any time. The Turkish Cypriots are planning protest demonstrations starting in Nicosia tomorrow.

d. Another potential trigger is the volatile issue of rotating Turkish troops, which has been shelved for the moment, but is far from solved.

e. There are also new signs of strife within Greek Cypriot ranks. Grivas and the Cypriot Communists, old antagonists, are at each other's throats again.

f. Grivas has denounced those who denigrate aid from Greece, as the Communists have. They have replied by denouncing Grivas for trying to impose "NATO bondage" on Cyprus. This could lead to violence.

(Cont'd)

[REDACTED]

g. Yesterday's "authorized" demonstrations in Ankara went off without incident [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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4. Chile

[REDACTED]

a. As the candidates swing into the home stretch for Friday's presidential balloting, Eduardo Frei appears to be in the lead.

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b. Most observers expect the vote to be close, however, and Frei may fail to get a clear majority.

c. Should this be the case, the Communist-Socialist standard bearer, Allende, would still have some room for maneuver before the Chilean Congress meets formally to name a president on 24 October.

d. All eyes would then be on Senator Duran's Radical Party which holds the largest single bloc of seats in the Congress and has a reputation for being alert to opportunities for patronage.

5. Communist Agriculture

a. With about half the planted acreage harvested, this year's small grain crop in the USSR now looks like the best since the record crop of 1958.

b. The main Soviet concern right now is to cut the loss between field and barn, always a problem. This year the problem has been made worse by compressed harvesting schedules.

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c. Growing conditions in the East European satellites point to another mediocre crop. Satellite import needs may therefore increase over last year. Most of this will still have to come from the West.

d. The early grain crop in Communist China topped the very poor 1963 crop. The outlook on the more important late crop is good, but Chinese imports continue to be scheduled at very near last year's levels.

NOTES

A. North Vietnam Hanoi yesterday laid claim to a 12-mile limit for its territorial waters. It did not say whether the line would be drawn to include offshore islands, one of which is 60 miles from land. Hanoi warned that violators of these waters would be "smashed."

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B. Communist China - Pakistan The head of Pei-ping's air force arrived in Karachi Monday on a "friendship" visit. His stay will give the Pakistanis another chance to underscore their unhappiness over US aid to India, but we doubt that this visit will produce any important defense talks.

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C. Panama Ambassador Vaughn considers that the Robles cabinet, named Monday, may prove to be the best in years. The new president has, however, taken certain risks in selecting his principal colleagues on the basis of ability rather than political loyalty, the normal Panamanian criterion.

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D. Haiti - Dominican Republic There appears to have been another shooting incident along the border. Both capitals, edgy as usual, are pressing their version of what happened. The Dominicans are asking that an OAS team be sent to investigate both sides of the border.

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